

SICC MEETING

Truman Building Room 493/494

September 13, 2002

Members Present

Debby Parsons
Debbie Martin
Rick Horrell
Donna Evert
Gretchen Schmitz
Elizabeth Spaugh

Joan Harter
Sherl Taylor
Anne Marie Wells
Cheryl Culbertson-Turner
Sharon Hailey
Valeri Lane

Susan Allen
Leslie Elpers
Jim McLaughlin
Kathryn Fuger

Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions

The co-chairs, Anne Marie and Sherry Hailey, called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

CIMP Report – Debby Parsons

Debby Parsons presented information regarding the CIMP report that is due to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) by October 18, 2002.

The Executive Summary will show the issues and concerns Missouri found and the overall findings in a summary format. OSEP is interested in our monitoring system and what we currently have in place and what changes will be coming, timelines, and standards developed.

The Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) will review the CIMP report at their October 4 meeting to discuss any issues and concerns they have.

It was suggested that an SICC subcommittee should be formed and could meet with DESE staff to review the report and discuss any questions or concerns. The entire panel would like to have a complete copy mailed to them. Members of the subcommittee are Valeri Lane, Joan Harter, Sue Allen, Sherry Haley, Anne Marie Wells, Cheryl Culbertson-Turner, Cathy Dalton, and Ann Haffner. October 7 is the date for the subcommittee to meet.

Valeri Lane made a motion to authorize the subcommittee to sign off on the CIMP report. Sue Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

A final copy will be available for the council in November.

SICC Members

Jodi Woessner indicated that she spoke with the Governor's office and that they are reviewing all of the Governor appointed councils and is appointing only the minimum number of appointments. There were six on the council that were not appointed and she has already spoken with them. They were invited as paid guests for today's meeting. The specialty level people that the council was looking at adding will not be added.

Ann Marie indicated that Shirley Patterson has unofficially resigned from the council. She also stated that we will keep the pool of nominees (those 6 that did not get appointed at this time) and they could be added with someone resigns or terminates. The Governor's office was also concerned about the four-year term limits and they decided to do staggering term limits instead.

Implementation Activities Update – Paula Goff

Paula Goff indicated that provider enrollment is going slow. Providers only get paid if they are enrolled. Providers must have liability insurance. Providers who are CEC members may go through CEC for liability insurance. For questions about SPOE bids contact Mary Call.

Conversion training is schedule for later this month with DMH and later with DOH (not scheduled at this time). The phase II bids will be awarded simultaneously mid to late October. DMH and DOH will have kids that they are currently serving. They will be moving from their system to the new system. The service coordinators will be talking to the families and letting them know what will be happening so that the children do not have a break in services. DESE hope the SPOES will be staffed, trained, and inputting data by December – especially important in the larger population areas. The authorizations will go out in December and January and services will continue as they have been. If providers have not enrolled by then, DESE will be contacting them.

Agencies must fill out their matrix. There are about a quarter of the providers that have not filled out the matrix page and will not show up in the referrals.

DESE is working on developing policies on substitute providers.

Break at 10:15

Budget/Data Update – Rick Hutcherson

Budget Information FY 03 – As far as DESE knows we believe that fiscally we are fine at this time. Not anticipating a supplement request. In FY 04 DESE is not requesting an increase in funds. Are expecting an increase in Medicaid revenues. Financially things look to be okay at this time.

Data – Rick handed out some information and indicated that it is only as good as the information being entered at the SPOE level. The council discussed the tables and data included in the handout.

Administrative Claiming – See handout. Medicaid has a program for the administrative agencies to go after administrative claiming. The SPOEs will be able to receive funds under administrative claiming. DESE will be able to recover similar costs from the CFO. There will be procedures in place to recover costs from SPOE and CFO activities.

Family Cost Participation work group – DESE has the ability under federal law under this program to charge parents' private insurance and/or assess charges for the services in some manner such as co pays, monthly premiums, etc. DESE is working with Sue Mackey Andrews to bring together a group of people that would represent the primary constituencies to develop advice on how we might proceed. If interested in serving on this group, give Lina your name/organization you representation or the name/organization of someone you feel would like to participate in this. Looking at a group of 10-15 people. There will be a meeting sometime the week of November 18 (2 day meeting). May have to have a January meeting to be able to include legislators.

Motion made by Donna Evert and seconded by Elizabeth Spaugh to have council members give Lina the names of those interested in becoming members of this subcommittee. Volunteers include: Elizabeth Spaugh (family member), Ann Marie Wells (family member), Ginny Williams (MOSPIN), Terri Glassner (family costs) The Special Learning Center, Leslie Elpers (Ability Network), Gretchen Schmitz (Dept of Insurance), and Joan Harter (parent)

Remote Service Add-on – Discussion on rates for providers when they must go to a remote area. DESE is looking at what options are available to be able to pay providers in these instances at a higher rate. There was a group of people identified to review the remote service add-on.

Lunch (Continued Discussion of CIMP, Budget, and Part C Application)

Part C Application – Pam Williams

Pam Williams indicated that the Part C application is in the 60 day comment period and DESE will hold three public hearings: September 19 in St. Louis, 4-6 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Office of SSD; September 23 in St. Joseph, 4-6 pm in the conference room of the public library; and September 24, 1-3 pm in Jefferson City in the Governor Office Building). SICC members have received copies of the proposed regulations. Copies are also available on the Division's website at the link called Part C Regulations. DESE hopes to have the final regulations around the first of the year.

Lapsing IFSP – Pam indicated that IFSPs do not lapse they just do not get reviewed within the required timelines. We are still obligated to provide services. It is the authorizations to provide services that actually lapse. The Compliance Section has six supervisors that are involved with the Part C system and they are going out and meeting with staff at the SPOEs to get information from them about barriers and roadblocks they are encountering in trying to get services to children.

Approval of July SICC Minutes

Page 4 (comments not correct about Head Start – see handwritten edits)

Page 4 (under DSS it should be HIPAA – see handwritten edits)

Last page (the bylaws were not mailed, it should say that they will be presented at the next meeting)

Donna Evert made a motion and was seconded by Cathy Fuger to approve the minutes with changes. Motion passed.

SICC Members Updates

DESE

Service Coordinator/Provider Recruitment – Jodi discussed service coordinator/provider recruitment and will report more data at the next meeting. She indicated that caseloads are running high and that DESE is keeping a close eye on it.

DMH – Donna Evert

Donna Evert announced that the Autism Symposium is April 3-4, 2003, in Springfield at University Plaza. DESE is working on the planning committee along with DMH and others. There is a Bill before the house for \$20 million dollars to help train people to work with kids with autism.

Because of the state's budget situation many times the First Steps kids get the services they need but because of the DMH services such as respite, those children may go on waiting lists for those types of services because it is not one of the Part C services. There are no waiting lists for First Steps kids just for the DMH services not covered under the First Steps services list.

In preparation of Phase II, DESE has been working with DMH on the conversion training. It was decided that the First Steps contacts at each of the regional centers need to have a chance to visit together.

DHSS – Rick Horrell

The DHSS is continuing to move out of the First Steps program. There are a couple of hot spots. One is in southeast Missouri, no staff for first steps – DHSS has integrated some of their other staff to help and DMH is taking some of the children. The other hot spot is in central Missouri. One of their service coordinators will be taking a new position with the County Health Department to help manage kids. This leaves only one in the central Missouri area. The rest of the state – there is staff in St. Louis that is helping out. They are trying to remain in the picture throughout the year to help out and will continue to support the system as best as possible.

Newborn hearing screenings have been started, some minor glitches but seems to be going fine. Some issues with reporting.

DSS – Debbie Martin

Due to state budget, DMS is reducing the therapy program rates as much as 50 cents to \$1 per unit effective October 1. There have been other rates reductions. This information will be on their website at www.dss.state.mo.us/dms/. She will send a copy of the bulletin to the co-chairs. Providers will be notified by bulletin. Information could also be sent on the listserv after everything has been finalized.

SICC has great concern on behalf of children, families, and providers regarding the potential impact of the rate reduction on the system and the potential for service inequities (note: that if DESE considers a level of change that they will let the council members know as an attachment to the minutes.) There are just too many issues involved. There is no simple answer. Some providers may get out of serving these kids. Debby indicated that she was unsure of what other options are available and that maybe Rick or someone from the Funds Management Section could visit with the council at the November meeting or we could send out some information via email to the council.

DFS – Jim McLaughlin

There have been budget cutbacks and a hold of staff vacancies with their agency. With the budget crunch, they found that they have to develop partnerships with other agencies to work together and not duplicate services. Throughout this whole thing communication seems to be one of the biggest issues and he feels that DESE's website is very good and has a lot of up to date information.

Providers

HB 874 – Q & A format on the Division's website (go to DESE's website, select Special Education, select First Steps, then select Q and A). Back about four years ago there was discussion at the Governor's office about a Division of Children's Family Services excluding DESE but it was decided that it would be too complex and was tabled.

Sue indicated that Kenny Holsoff needs support for looking at direct access for physical therapy (without a medical referral) 573-449-5119 or 636-239-4001.

Parent/Families

Jodi indicated that many of the issues are related to the 45-day timelines. We are hearing from families and from providers and service coordinators regarding this issue. Those families are referred to the Compliance section if they would like to file a child complaint to receive compensatory services. Debby indicated that there is a staff shortage in the St. Louis area. They are trying to get additional staff there to help with data entry. There are approximately 150 kids not yet entered. They are receiving applications and reviewing staff for the position vacancies.

Universities/Colleges

Lisa Robbins indicated that she is doing some of the module training in her college courses at the university.

Kathy indicated Maternal and Child Leadership training (UM-KC and UM-Columbia) is in their new training year. There will be nine trainees. Kay Conklin is the director of interdisciplinary training. There will be practicum opportunities for students.

LICC Updates – First Steps Facilitators

Jhan Hurn – They work with Bright Futures. They hired Susan Snider to fill the position of facilitator. Amber and Gretchen will be working with her.

There are four LICCs active in the southeast area of the state with two under development.

Karen Jacobi – Would like to have some clarity and how they fit into the redesign. They have nine active LICCS in the northwest area that meet regularly. The northwest LICC has identified provider recruitment and child find as their priority. ABCCD LICC has developed a quality assurance that they can give to providers and families. Jackson County LICC has identified legislative issues. Early Child Find LICC has a mentoring program where they will do one on one for new council members.

It was felt that the LICCs need a redefined scope of work. The LICCs in many cases are moving forward but they want to know that what they are doing will be useful. Some sort of coordinated response from this board would be helpful to LICCs – or would this be a function of DESE? There needs to be a mechanism for ongoing dialog. One suggestion was to have one or two LICCs to report at each SICC meeting. It might be appropriate to go the each LICC and have them list their priorities and then see how that merges with the SICC and how they would be able to support each other. A newsletter is another possible option. It was recommended that facilitators contact each of their LICCs and get the information that is to be shared with the SICC and send this information to Sherry (what are their priorities, what is their perspective on how they would like to fit into the council, and what do they want communicated back to them from SICC).

By-laws – Ann Marie and Sharon Hailey

Table this topic until the November meeting. Note: The bolded items are the added items and strike-through items are the items to be deleted.

SICC Budget Report – Jodi Woessner

Jodi indicated that we will have expense report at next meeting.

New Business – Anne Marie and Sharon Hailey

The next meeting is November 8, 2002, at the Truman Building, Room 490, Jefferson City.

Adjourn

Jim McLaughlin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:15 p.m. and was seconded by Elizabeth Spaugh. Motion passed.